



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

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FB05-059

A Revised Control Date for the Atlantic Spanish Mackerel Fishery

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announces the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) is establishing a revised control date of June 15, 2004, for the commercial Spanish mackerel fishery in the Atlantic exclusive economic zone. This control date replaces an existing July 2, 1993, control date for the fishery. The Council is concerned about the potential for excess harvesting capacity in the fishery. This notice announces the Council may, in the future, consider management measures to limit participation or effort in the fishery using the June 15, 2004, control date as part of a management strategy.

Establishment of a control date does not commit the Council or NMFS to any particular management regime or criteria for entry into this fishery. Fishermen are not guaranteed future participation in the fishery regardless of their entry date or intensity of participation in the fishery before or after the control date under consideration. The Council may choose to use a different control date, or to give variably weighted consideration to fishermen active in the fishery before and after the control date. Other qualifying criteria, such as documentation of landings and sales, may be applied for entry into the fishery. The Council may also choose to take no further action to control entry or access to the fishery, in which case the control date may be rescinded.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: Comments regarding the establishment of the revised control date in the fishery must be submitted before December 9, 2005. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- E-mail: 0648-AT64.ANPR@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the

following document identifier: 0648-AT64.

- Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: Follow the instructions for submitting comments. <http://www.regulations.gov>.
- Mail: Steve Branstetter, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.
- Fax: 727-824-5308.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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NMFS is dedicated to protecting and preserving our nation's living marine resources and their habitats through scientific research, management and enforcement. NMFS provides effective stewardship of these resources for the benefit of the nation, supporting coastal communities that depend upon them, and helping to provide safe and healthy seafood to consumers and recreational opportunities for the American public.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department, is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and providing environmental stewardship of our nation's coastal and marine resources. Through the emerging Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), NOAA is working with its federal partners and nearly 60 countries to develop a global monitoring network that is as integrated as the planet it observes.

National Marine Fisheries Service
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